5

## ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

Disclosed is a method for producing polymer/silicate nanocomposites via emulsion polymerization, which comprises the steps of:

- (a) forming initial particles from a layered silicate and a monomer provided for high molecular weight polymerization using a reactive emulsifying agent containing a functional group having affinity for the layered silicate; and
- (b) emulsion polymerizing the initial particles from the step
- (a) and a monomer additionally provided using a stabilizer to form exfoliated polymer/silicate nanocomposites.